

N. C. State's crack basketball team, currently rated No. 2 in the nation, meets South Carolina tonight in the Coliseum. Turn to 4f.

School Area Protection Is Sought

Group Protests Business Zone Application

School authorities Tuesday called for a new city policy to shield schools from business and industry.

A delegation from the City School Board appeared before the Zoning Board to protest petitions for business zoning in two school neighborhoods.

And they asked that municipal officials consider laying down a general policy against changing the classification of residential property adjoining school grounds.

Zoning commissioners voted to deny the two petitions in question and decided to take under advisement the request for a general policy.

Speaking for the school group was Commissioner Douglas Aiken. Other members of the delegation were Commissioner Ben Horack, Supt. Elmer H. Garinger, and Asst. Supt. John M. Dunlap.

The council, with objecting property owners, that creation of business or industrial districts in the immediate school neighborhoods presents a serious and unnecessary hazard for pupils.

AUDITORIUM AREA One of the petitions in question involves a large amount of property in the Auditorium-Coliseum neighborhood.

Stable delegations representing both sides of the question appeared before the City Council at a public hearing two weeks ago.

Councilmen voted to ask Zoning Board guidance before taking action.

Councilwoman Martha Evans has championed the changes. She feels they will serve to protect the Coliseum neighborhood against an undesirable type of business development.

Requested were changes from Residence 1 and R2 to Business 1-A on property in the 2500, 2600, and 2700 blocks of Independence boulevard.

The property is in the Chantilly School neighborhood.

Also turned down by the Zoning Board was the request of J. W. O'Neil for a change from Industrial for property in the 2100 block of Statesville avenue.

The property lies between Woodward avenue and Double Oaks School.

Pupil Rolls Set Record

City school enrollment soared past official predictions for a record of 27,900 Tuesday.

The City School Board issued a report showing that the local school population had reached that total Dec. 1.

This is a jump of 1,146 over the count at the same time last year. The total also represents a gain of approximately 1,000 since the opening of the current term last September.

Early in the school term, Supt. Elmer H. Garinger estimated that the 28,000 mark would be reached by Christmas.

With a monthly gain of between 200 and 300 pupils, the enrollment will be over 28,000 well before the holiday.

Tuesday's report showed that the city's 33 white schools have a total enrollment of 18,922. There are 9,068 children in the city's 13 Negro units.

Central High School is easily the most populous unit with a total count of 1,506 students.

NEXT are Myers Park, with 1,412; and Harding High with 1,284. Northwest Junior High has the heaviest (1,024) enrollment among the Negro units.

Vaughn C. Handy Death Is Ruled Self Inflicted

The body of Vaughn C. Handy, 58, was found Tuesday afternoon in his room at 4066 Tilman Rd.

County police who investigated the case found two bullet wounds which caused the death. They were inflicted by a .22 caliber rifle which was on the bed with the body.

Dr. W. M. Summerfield, coroner, listed the shooting as suicide. Police reported that the man left a note indicating that he was dependent about personal affairs. He had been employed by the Merchant Patrol.

A CHRISTMAS STORY No Room At Inn For Mary, Joseph

By NORMAN VINCENT PEALE

It was in the month of December that Joseph and Mary set out to make their journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Mary rode their little donkey and Joseph walked ahead leading it by a rope halter.

You might think that there was snow on the ground and that it was very cold. But that wouldn't be true because the climate of that country is different from our own.

The ride was a long and a hard one—and most of it took place under a broiling sun which blistered and scorched them. Even though they left at first light in the morning, it was late in the evening before they came to the gates of Bethlehem. They were hot and hungry and weary.

Now, in those days, there were no hotels as we know them.

And, of course, there was no such thing as a hotel reservation. People stayed with friends or relatives. If they were strangers, there were inns, meant first of all for the caravans and the traveling merchants.

As Joseph and Mary went through the streets of Bethlehem, they noticed how crowded it was. People from all over—men, women and children—had come to Bethlehem in obedience to Caesar Augustus' decree. And when they came to the inn in Bethlehem, there was no room for them.

It would be hard for you to imagine such an inn.

You see, Bethlehem nestles among hills and mountains and, even today it is often easier to live in a cave than to build a house. And this particular inn was a cave or a group of caves which had been made into guest rooms, public rooms, dining rooms and even a stable for the animals. Yet, even in an inn such as this, after their long hard journey, there was no room for Mary and Joseph.

(Tomorrow: Call Him Jesus)

Interest Rate On City's Bonds Is Unusually Low

Charlotte got lower interest rates than it had hoped for in the sale of \$2,568,000 of its bonds Tuesday.

The Local Government Commission sold the improvement bonds in Raleigh Tuesday morning at an interest rate of 2.70 per cent.

The bonds were sold to: The First National City Bank, New York; Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Beane, New York; Bacon, Stevenson and Co., New York; Providence Savings Bank and Trust Co., Cincinnati; Roswell and Cross, Inc., New York; Mercantile-Safe Deposit and Trust Co., Baltimore; and Blower Glynn and Co., St. Louis.

They will be used for various improvements, including waterworks expansion, sewer improvements, street construction, building of a new fire station, and retiring of bond anticipation notes issued to complete the Auditorium-Coliseum.

They have an average maturity of 19.34 years.

Before leaving for the Raleigh sale, City Treasurer L. L. Ledbetter said privately that he hoped for an interest rate as low as 2.75 per cent. He pointed out that this was the rate won by a major city with an "AA" rating on the New York bond market.

Charlotte has an "A" rating.

AND A LITTLE GIRL IS HAPPY

Pet Cat Is Rescued From Tree

By MARIAN WILSON Observer Staff Writer

Seven-year-old Diane Lanter can have a happy Christmas now.

Monday afternoon, the Mecklenburg County Humane Society received a telephone call from Mrs. D. R. Lanter. The society called the Day Tree Expert Co. M. R. Foster, owner of the company, drove out to the park with his young son George and foreman T. E. Efrd.

In spurts and bell and carrying equipment, Efrd climbed the tree, deposited Mickey in a sack and lowered him gently in the ground with a rope. George held the flashlight.

There were no charges for services. Everybody thanked everybody. And Diane carried Mickey home for warm milk and affection.



T. E. Efrd Hands Wandering Mickey To Diane Lanter



Mrs. Frances Tate Soothes Daughter After Close Call

Expectant Mother Saves Tot In Two-Story Leap

Barnet said the fire started from a fuse leading from a pregnant woman, clutching her 3-year-old daughter, from a second-floor window in a leap for life early Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Sarah Frances Tate awakened at 6:30 a.m. to find the house at 423 S. Davidson St. in flames. She gathered her little girl, Marilyn White, in her arms and jumped into the freezing outdoor air.

Barbara Tate, 12, also jumped to safety.

The three escaped with minor burns. The first floor of the house was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Tate. The former was burned slightly in running out of the burning building.

Deputy Fire Chief George

Morning Prayer

"O God, our heavenly Father, we pray that we may be worthy followers of Thine. To this end cleanse our hearts from all sin and grant that the Holy Spirit may dwell within us to give us power and courage to further Thy kingdom among men, both by the quality of life we live and the work we do in His name. Amen." (The Upper Room)

Council Faces Perimeter Zoning Petitions Today

Twenty-five new petitions for changes will face the City Council at the start of today's final hearing on perimeter zoning.

City Clerk Lillian R. Hoffman said Tuesday that this is the number of requests that have been filed since the recent public hearings by the Council and the Planning Board.

Approximately 30 were heard previously.

Questioned Tuesday night, Planning Chairman Spencer Bell said he would attend today's 4 p.m. meeting "as a spectator."

As spokesman of the Planning Board, he has expressed strong objections to the course of action hinted by the Council. Councilmen have indicated they will grant a sizeable number of requests which the Planning Board

Awards Given At Troop 121

Boy Scout Troop No. 121 of Memorial Methodist announces the following awards and advancements: Marshall Candie, one merit badge and advancement to 1st class; Mike Goode, two merit badges; George Greer, one merit badge and advancement to 1st class; Lloyd Hembree, one merit badge and advancement to 1st class; Eddie Purser, one merit badge; Reggie Smith, two merit badges; Dickie Williams, advancement to 1st class.

Mother Sees Car Kill Son Near Home

Schoolteacher Didn't See David Meyer Until Too Late

Seven-year-old David Meyer was struck and killed by a car Tuesday morning as his mother watched from a kitchen window.

He was crossing Sunter road, about six miles from Charlotte, to board a school bus headed west for Long Creek School.

One car had stopped behind the bus. His mother, Mrs. Richard Hamilton, said she was watching from the window as David ran to the bus.

"I always watch until I see his feet go up the steps on the other side of the bus," she said.

"I watched him start across the road . . . there was a car . . . It was so fast that I . . . the books went up into the air . . . I saw the books scattering.

"I got out there and he wasn't moving. He didn't have a pulse. His cocker spaniel, named and lay down beside David, licked his face.

"I asked the woman, 'What's the matter? Didn't you see the school bus?'"

Mary Williams, 38, of 315 Mill Road, a teacher on her way to classes at Ada Jenkins School, said she didn't until it was too late.

Her 1955 car, traveling in the opposite direction of the school bus and meeting it, had traveled about 75 feet after the impact.

The bus driver, Forrest Drum Kerns, said the bus "stop" sign was out.

Mrs. Williams said the "stop" sign went up when she was only about 20 feet away.

She was released under \$1,000 bond after being held on a possible manslaughter charge.

A coroner's inquest will be held at 5 p.m. Dec. 30 in the Court-house here.

David was the second Mecklenburg schoolchild fatality in 23 days. On Nov. 22, Charlene Hartzell of 1300 Weldon Avenue, was killed by a car in front of her house as she went toward a school bus.

Funeral services for David will be held at 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the Harry and Bryant Chapel in the Oaks. The Rev. Leslie Frerking of Accession Lutheran Church and the Rev. M. B. Prince of Williams Memorial Church will officiate. Burial will be in Sharon Memorial Cemetery.

Active pallbearers will be S. L. Bratton, Bill K. Hamilton, Jack Whitley and H. N. Wright. Honorary pallbearers will be Dick Young Jr., Max Hamilton Jr., Bill Hamilton Jr., Joe Hamilton Jr., Clay Todd Jr. and Tommy and Harvey Shields.

Survivors include his mother; his father, Richard Hamilton; one brother, Dougie Meyer; the paternal grandmother, Mrs. Lottie Meyer; his uncle, Fla., and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Hardin of Madisonville, Tenn.

Oil Industry Men To Meet In Charlotte

Oil industry men of North Carolina, voluntary members of the Oil Industry Information Committee, will attend that group's meeting in Charlotte Thursday.

Committee members will review the 1955 information program and results, then review the 1956 program. In addition, five prominent oil men will be cited for their valuable services to the industry; eleven others will get special certificates for their pre-1955 Progress West activities.

Ken McCullough, Charlotte, incoming state chairman, will preside over the sessions. Meetings will be held at Hotel Charlotte.

Friday will be a study clinic for selected holders.

D. M. Hills of Atlanta, Southeast district chairman, will be the principal speaker at luncheon on Thursday and Friday. American Petroleum Institute Southeastern representatives from Atlanta and Philadelphia will be present for these meetings.

Money Policy Is Explained

The Charlotte Association of the American Society of Chartered Life Underwriters heard a talk Monday on "The Federal Reserve Monetary Policy and Our Economy."

The speaker was Clinton Moody, assistant cashier of the Charlotte branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.



DAVID MEYER

Schools Head Issues Plea For Safety

A call for "reducing our safety efforts" came from County Superintendent J. W. Wilson Tuesday after a child was killed en route to board a school bus.

It was the second time in less than a month that a youngster had been killed under somewhat similar circumstances.

Eight-year-old Charlene Hartzell was struck and fatally injured as she walked toward a school bus stop on the morning of Nov. 22.

Tuesday, 7-year-old David Eugene Meyer died on the way to a local hospital after a car struck him as he crossed toward a parked school bus on Sunter road.

After the accident, Supt. Wilson called on Mecklenburg residents to "renew our caution and safety consciousness so this will not happen again."

"It is tremendously important," he declared, "in view of rapidly increasing traffic that every parent, school person and motorist assist in every possible way to protect the children."

Heavier traffic loads in the county, Wilson said, have resulted in "extra hazards" for children waiting for school buses.

"We know," he added, "that most of the traveling public has been very considerate of school children, and we are appreciative of that fact."

But he added that motorists must recognize that roads and highways are "more hazardous than ever before for the walking as well as the riding school child."

"It is particularly important," Wilson said, "for the small minority of motorists who have not been so considerate to recognize this."

"I believe and I hope everyone of us concerned with the schools is doing everything he can to provide safety for children going to and from home every day."

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